

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 - 9, 11 - 17 and 19 - 21 remain in the application.

Examiner objected to claims 1, 5 and 18. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended, claim 18 has been cancelled.

Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 112 as indefinite. Claim 7 has been amended as suggested by Examiner.

Examiner rejected claims 1, 3 - 6, 8 - 10, 12, 13 and 15 - 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Lincourt (U.S. Patent No. 3,610,022). Lincourt discloses an automotive body clamp but the clamp of Lincourt is typical of the prior art in that it either requires removal of body panels when pulling or the pull occurs out of alignment with the jaws. Referring to Lincourt Fig. 7, a pull occurs along an axis 55 above the jaws at "W". This creates an undesirable torque as opposed to a straight pull at W.

The independent claims 1, 12 and 20 have been amended to include the limitation, from original claims 10 and 18, that the body bore, external force and jaw are axially aligned. This is not shown in Lincourt and is important to isolate a pull without creating a torque.

Independent claim 12 has been further amended to include the limitation of said slanted wall creating a stair step between first end portion plate and said second portion. The stair step combined with the limitation of the axial alignment of the external pull, body bore and jaws creates a pull clamp accessory that can stair step over an obstacle such as a fender and still provide a straight pull. This eliminates the need of the prior art to remove the fenders prior to straightening the frame. This feature is not shown in Lincourt or in any of the prior art alone or in combination.

Claims 2 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as obvious in view of Lincourt modified in view of Peters et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,815,719). Examiner uses Peters et al. to show kidney shaped bores. But the combination fails to show either that the body bore, external force and jaw are axially aligned as in independent claims 1 and 12 or the slanted wall creating a stair step between said first end portion plate and said second portion. Therefore, claims 2 and 14 should now be allowable. The device of Peters does not show a jaw but also creates a torque due to non-axially aligned pull.

Claims 7, 11 and 19 - 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as obvious over Lincourt modified by Jarman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,296,626). Examiner uses Jarman et al. to show a clamping member with kidney shaped bores and a central hole. The device of Jarman is typical of the prior art and is shown applying a pull with the fenders removed. Jarman provides an axial pull but does not show a jaw or a stair step as claimed, so the fenders applying the Jarman clamp must be removed adding labor to the job of repairing the car.

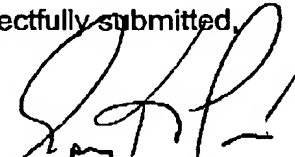
For these reasons, it is felt that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the remarks above it is felt that the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance.

In the event the Examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,



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